

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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66

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 SAM-01 RSC-01 DRC-01 /025 W

----- 008690

R 221415Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6858

C O N F I D E N T I A L BLANTYRE 258

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CGEN, MI

SUBJ: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY RE MALAWIAN DETAINEE

REF: STATE 025600

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. BARRON MKWAILA EARNED BS IN BIOLOGY FROM WILKES BARRE COLLEGE, PA IN 1968 WITH ASPAU GRANT AND MA IN ENTOMOLOGY FROM UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS. HE RETURNED TO MALAWI IN 1971. END UNCLASSIFIED

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

2. FYI. IN MARCH 1972 MKWAILA BECAME INVOLVED IN ALTERCATION WITH DONALD A. BRODY, AMERICAN CITIZEN. BRODY, WHO HAS NOW LEFT MALAWI, WAS UNDER CONTRACT TO GOM SERVING AMONG OTHER FUNCTIONS AS MANAGER OF ARTS AND CRAFTS CENTER. BRODY REPORTED TO MINISTER OF STATE MUWALO NQUMAYO THAT MKWAILA ENTERED ARTS AND CRAFTS' PREMISES, WAS RUDE AND CALLED BRODY "RACIST." WE ARE RELIABLY INFORMED THAT THIS REPORT LED TO MKWAILA'S DETENTION. MKWAILA IS STILL INCARCERATED AND WE HAVE NO WAY ESTIMATING PROSPECTS FOR RELEASE. WE BELIEVE INTERVENTION BY EMBASSY WOULD NOT PROVE HELPFUL TO HIM. END FYI. END CONFIDENTIAL

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED.

3. SUGGEST THAT IN REPLY TO CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY DEPARTMENT
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SAY ONLY THAT WE UNDERSTAND MKWAILA STILL UNDER DETENTION

ON UNSPECIFIED CHARGES. BECAUSE MKWAILA IS MALAWI CITIZEN,
EMBASSY IS NOT IN POSITION TO INTERVENE IN HELPFUL FASHION
AND IT UNABLE TO FORECAST WHEN HE MAY BE RELEASED. END
UNCLASSIFIED.
BURDETT

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